

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SP-02 NSC-05 NSCE-00
SSO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00 PRS-01 SY-05
/059 W

-----100141Z 105309 /64

O 100036Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3379

AMEMBASSY LAGOS NIACT IMMEDIATE

USUN NEW YORK NIACT IMMEDIATE 664

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABIDJAN 4664

FROM EASUM

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR NI OVIP (YOUNG, ANDREW)

SUBJECT: AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S TRIP

REF: LAGOS 5247

1. I HAVE INTERPRETED REFTEL AS CLEAR INDICATION THAT FMG NOT ABOUT TO PROVIDE GREEN LIGHT FOR PROPOSED YOUNG VISIT AND IS IN FACT FLASHING SOMETHING BETWEEN YELLOW AND RED. WITH BILL SCHAUFELE'S CONCURRENCE, I THEREFORE TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR YOUNG/S OFFICE IN WASHINGTON AT 1900 ABIDJAN TIME THIS EVENING AND RECOMMENDED THAT VISIT TO LAGOS NOT REPEAT NOT BE PURSUED FURTHER.

2. YOUNG'S STAFF TOLD ME THAT DEPARTMENT'S NOON BRIEFING TODAY HAD ANNOUNCED AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S INTEREST IN VISITING LAGOS AND OTHER AFRICAN CAPITALS.

3. I URGED THAT, IF NOT TOO LATE, A USEFUL CLARIFICATION MIGHT BE GIVEN TO PRESS ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: QUOTE IN CONJUNCTION WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S PRESENCE IN ABIDJAN FOR THE CONFERENCE
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OF AMERICAN AMBASSADORS IN AFRICA AND HIS UPCOMING ATTENDANCE AT THE UN CONFERENCE ON DECOLONIZATION TO BE HELD IN MAPUTO IN MID-MAY, WE HAVE RAISED WITH SEVERAL AFRICAN GOVERNMENTS THE POSSIBILITY THAT HE MIGHT PAY BRIEF VISITS TO THEIR CAPITALS. PENDING THE RESULTS OF THESE CONVERSATIONS, NO FIRM DECISIONS ON HIS FULL ITINERARY HAVE BEEN MADE UNQUOTE. I SAID WE BELIEVED A STATEMENT ALONG THESE LINES MIGHT HELP AVOID EMBARRASSMENT TO US AND TO FMG.

4. YOUNG'S OFFICE ASKED WHETHER THEY SHOULD AWAIT THE FULLER EXPLANATION THAT REFTTEL INDICATES YOU EXPECT RECEIVE MAY 10 BEFORE ATTEMPTING REARRANGE ITINERARY. I SAID I BELIEVED LAGOS STOP WAS NOW REPEAT NOW OUT OF THE QUESTION AND OUR EFFORTS SHOULD BE FOCUSED ON REPAIRING ANY DAMAGES RATHER THAN PUSHING OUR LUCK ANY FURTHER IN LAGOS. I CALLED ATTENTION TO LAGOS 5240 CONCERNING VOA TREATMENT. YOUNG'S STAFFER SAID HE AWARE OF MESSAGE AND BELIEVED THAT VOA ALREADY TAKING APPROPRIATE STEPS.

5. MY RECOMMENDATION TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S OFFICE WAS FURTHER INFLUENCED BY MY CONCERN NOT TO JEOPARDIZE SUCCESS OF DICK COOPER'S VISIT FOR WHICH FMG IS MAKING NOTEWORTHY PREPARATORY EFFORTS. AMBASSADOR SCHAUFLELE SHARES THIS CONCERN.

6. AT AMBASSADOR SMITH'S REQUEST I INFORMED YOUNG'S OFFICE THAT ACCRA COULD NOT REPEAT NOT PROVIDE OVERNIGHT LODGING FOR YOUNG PARTY.
STEARNS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, VISITS, PRESS CONFERENCES
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 10-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Review Release Date: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, SOPN, NI, US, (YOUNG, ANDREW)
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